Remarks

Claims 18 and 20-41 are pending. By this Amendment, claim 23 has been amended and claim 42 has been cancelled. No new matter is believed added. Reconsideration and allowance are requested in view of the above amendments and the remarks below. These amendments are being made to facilitate early allowance of the presently claimed subject matter. Applicant does not acquiesce in the correctness of the objections and rejections and reserve the right to pursue the full scope of the subject matter of the original claims in a subsequent patent application that claims priority to the instant application.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter.

The dependency of claim 23 has been corrected. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to claims 23 and 25 is requested.

Claim 42 has been cancelled in view of the partial withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement set forth in the Office Action dated July 29, 2009.

Applicant respectfully submits that all claims are in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner require anything further to place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

/John A. Merecki/

John A. Merecki Reg. No.: 35,812

Hoffman Warnick LLC 75 State Street, 14th Floor Albany, New York 12207 (518) 449-0044 (518) 449-0047 (fax)

Date: April 19, 2010